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Letter dated 29 December 2016 from the Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 2206 (2015) concerning South Sudan addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith the report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 2206 (2015) concerning South Sudan, containing an account of the Committee's activities from 1 January to 31 December 2016. The report, which was approved by the Committee, is being submitted in accordance with the note by the President of the Security Council of 29 March 1995 (S/1995/234).

I should be grateful if the present letter and the report were brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council and issued as a document of the Council.

(*Signed*) Fodé **Seck**
Chair
Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 2206 (2015) concerning South Sudan

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Report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 2206 (2015) concerning South Sudan

I. Introduction

1. The present report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 2206 (2015) concerning South Sudan covers the period from 1 January to 31 December 2016.

2. The Bureau consisted of Fodé Seck (Senegal) as Chair and the representatives of Malaysia and New Zealand as Vice-Chairs.

II. Background

3. By its resolution 2206 (2015), the Security Council established the Committee and imposed a travel ban and an asset freeze on individuals and entities designated by the Committee as engaging in a wide range of forms of behaviour that threatened the peace, security or stability of South Sudan. The Committee is tasked with, among other things, overseeing the implementation of the sanctions measures.

4. By the same resolution, the Security Council established a panel of five experts to assist the Committee in carrying out its mandate. The Panel's mandate was extended most recently in resolution 2290 (2016).

5. Further background information on the South Sudan sanctions regime can be found in the previous annual report of the Committee (S/2015/997).

III. Summary of the activities of the Committee

6. The Committee held one formal meeting, on 12 February, and met five times in informal consultations, on 14 January, 14 March, 15 July, 16 September and 11 November, in addition to conducting its work through written procedures. The Committee also held joint informal consultations with the Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict on 14 March.

7. During the formal meeting, held on 12 February, the Committee met representatives of the permanent missions of South Sudan and six States of the region — the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, the Sudan and Uganda — to exchange views on the implementation of the sanctions measures in pursuance of paragraph 16 (g) of resolution 2206 (2015) and paragraph 3 (b) of the Committee's guidelines.

8. During the informal consultations held on 14 January, the Committee heard a presentation by the Coordinator of the Panel of Experts on the Panel's final report, submitted pursuant to paragraph 18 (d) of resolution 2206 (2015) (S/2016/70), and discussed the recommendations contained therein.

9. During the joint informal consultations held on 14 March, the Committee and the Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict heard a briefing by the Special

Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict on the impact of the armed conflict in South Sudan on children.

10. During the informal consultations held on 15 July, the Committee heard a presentation by the Coordinator of the Panel of Experts on the Panel's work programme. The Coordinator also provided an update on an outbreak of violence in Juba that had occurred in the week before the meeting.

11. During the informal consultations held on 16 September, the Committee heard a presentation by the Coordinator of the Panel of Experts on the Panel's 120-day report (S/2016/793), submitted pursuant to paragraph 12 (e) of resolution 2290 (2016). The Committee also heard a briefing from the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, who, among other things, encouraged the Committee to consider designating for targeted sanctions measures perpetrators of sexual violence in South Sudan.

12. During the informal consultations held on 11 November, the Committee heard a presentation by the Coordinator of the Panel of Experts on the Panel's interim report (S/2016/793), submitted pursuant to paragraph 12 (d) of resolution 2290 (2015), and discussed the recommendations contained therein.

13. Following the formal meeting held on 12 February and the informal consultations held on 15 July, 16 September and 11 November, and in accordance with paragraph 1 (c) of the note by the President of the Security Council on the work of the subsidiary organs of the Security Council (S/2016/170), the Committee sent notes verbales to all Member States and issued press releases containing brief summaries of the meeting and consultations.

14. The Chair of the Committee briefed the Security Council during consultations on the activities of the Committee on 19 February (see S/PV.7628) and 17 November (see S/PV.7814).

15. From 10 to 19 December, the Chair undertook a visit to South Sudan, Ethiopia, the Sudan and Uganda.

16. The Committee sent 33 communications to 13 Member States and other stakeholders with reference to the implementation of the sanctions measures.

IV. Exemptions

17. Exemptions to the asset freeze are contained in paragraphs 13 to 15 of resolution 2206 (2015), as reaffirmed in paragraph 7 of resolution 2290 (2016).

18. Exemptions to the travel ban are contained in paragraph 11 of resolution 2206 (2015), as reaffirmed in paragraph 7 of resolution 2290 (2016).

19. The Committee received no requests for exemptions to the measures.

V. Sanctions list

20. The criteria for the designation of individuals and entities as subject to the travel ban and asset freeze are set out in paragraphs 6 to 8 of resolution 2206

(2015), as reaffirmed in paragraphs 8 to 10 of resolution 2290 (2016). The procedures for requesting listing and delisting are described in the Committee's guidelines for the conduct of its work.

21. As at the end of the reporting period, there were six individuals on the sanctions list of the Committee.

VI. Panel of Experts

22. The final report of the Panel of Experts, submitted pursuant to paragraph 18 (d) of resolution 2206 (2015), was issued as a document of the Security Council on 22 January (S/2016/70).

23. On 22 June, following the adoption by the Security Council of resolution 2290 (2016) on 31 May, the Secretary-General appointed five individuals to serve on the Panel, with expertise in regional issues, armed groups, natural resources/finance, humanitarian affairs and arms (S/2016/563). The mandate of the Panel expires on 1 July 2017.

24. On 19 September, in accordance with paragraph 12 (e) of resolution 2290 (2016), the Panel provided its 120-day report to the Security Council (S/2016/793).

25. On 28 October, in accordance with paragraph 12 (d) of resolution 2290 (2016), the Panel provided its interim report to the Committee, which was transmitted to the Security Council on 15 November and issued as a document of the Council (S/2016/963).

26. The Panel conducted visits to Belgium, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, France, Italy, Kenya, Lebanon, the Netherlands, South Africa, South Sudan, the Sudan, Uganda, Ukraine and the United States of America.

27. In pursuance of its mandate, the Panel, through the Secretariat, sent 82 letters to Member States, the Security Council, the Committee and international and national entities.

VII. Secretariat administrative and substantive support

28. The Security Council Affairs Division provided substantive and procedural support to the Chair and the members of the Committee. Advisory support was also provided to Member States to promote understanding of the sanctions regime and facilitate the implementation of the sanctions measures. Induction briefings were also provided to incoming members of the Council to familiarize them with the specific issues relevant to the sanctions regime.

29. To support the Committee in its recruitment of well-qualified experts to serve on sanctions monitoring groups, teams and panels, a note verbale was sent to all Member States on 1 December to request the nomination of qualified candidates for membership of the roster of experts. In addition, a note verbale was sent to all Member States notifying them of upcoming vacancies on the Panel of Experts and providing information on recruitment timelines, areas of expertise and pertinent requirements.

30. The Division continued to provide support to the Panel of Experts, conducting an induction for newly appointed members in New York and assisting in the preparation of the Panel's 120-day report in September and its interim report in November and during the preparation of its final report under the previous mandate in January.

31. The Panel of Experts participated in the fourth annual inter-panel coordination workshop, held in New York on 6 and 7 December, organized by the Secretariat. On 8 and 9 December, the Division, in cooperation with United Nations system partners, conducted a workshop on investigative interview techniques for 19 experts from sanctions monitoring groups, teams and panels. Three members of the Panel participated therein.

32. The Secretariat continued to update and maintain the Consolidated United Nations Security Council Sanctions List and the committee-specific sanctions lists in the six official languages and the three technical formats. Furthermore, the Secretariat implemented improvements concerning the effective utilization of and access to sanctions lists, including through the establishment of a search function for names on sanctions lists, the creation of lists organized by permanent reference number, in addition to those by alphabetical order, and the creation of links in list entries, as appropriate, to INTERPOL-United Nations Security Council Special Notices.